

531 Rec'd PCT/P. 27 DEC 2001

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PS**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE****In re patent application of :** Frans Eduard Janssens *et al.*5 **Intl. Appln. No. :** PCT/EP00/05677 **Group No.** : Not Yet Assigned**Intl. Filing Date :** 20 June 2000 **Examiner** : Not Yet Assigned10 **For** : Respiratory Syncytial Virus Replication Inhibitors**BOX PCT**Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

15 Dear Sir:

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

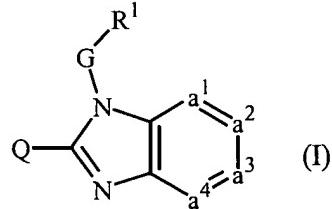
Prior to action on the merits, applicants request that the above-identified application be amended.

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In the claims:

Please amend claims 1-15 as follows:

25 1. A compound of formula



a prodrug, N-oxide, addition salt, quaternary amine, metal complex or stereochemically isomeric form thereof wherein -a¹=a²-a³=a⁴- represents a bivalent radical of formula

- CH=CH-CH=CH- (a-1);
- N=CH-CH=CH- (a-2);
- CH=N-CH=CH- (a-3);
- CH=CH-N=CH- (a-4); or
- CH=CH-CH=N- (a-5);